

I. AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

Page 2, line 31, after "well" insert --a means-- and line 32, substitute --these needs-- for "this need".

Page 5, line 35, change "Embo" to --EMBO--.

Page 6, line 17, substitute "4EE" to --4E--.

Page 24, line 14, change "disfunction" to --dysfunction--.

In the claims:

Cancel claims 6 to 21 and 24 to 33 (claims 24 to 34, as originally filed) without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 23, under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b) by deleting the bracketed material and inserting the underlined material as follows:

sl
15
a²
--1. (Amended) A purified mammalian protein [having the ability to bind] that specifically binds the cytoplasmic region of the mammalian CD40 receptor and does not specifically bind to a homologous cell-surface receptor of the tumor necrosis receptor family.--

--2. (Amended) A polypeptide fragment comprising the C-terminal half of the protein of claim 1.--

a²
--22. (Renumbered and Amended) An agent [having the ability to inhibit the ability of] that inhibits the binding of the protein of claim 1 to [bind] the cytoplasmic domain of CD40 receptor.--